

Phillis Johnson-Ball  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20423

Attention: Finance Docket No. 34797

We are writing you today, because we are concerned about the proposal for New England Transrail, to operate a rail carrier on the Olin property. We are very much opposed to this proposal. Our main concern is that our home is within a very short distance from the proposed site.

We have already been burdened with ground water contamination. Several water wells have been closed in our area. We have had to close our well and have been forced to use city water. Our area has had to deal with much contamination. We believe the Surface Transportation Board is not aware of the difficulties and contamination that is around the area. Also, one report that I read, did not accurately state the number of family homes that are near this sight. The STB did not have an accurate understanding that there are a number of homes within a half mile, that have been burdened with environmental health problems. Many cancers such as adult and child leukemia and many thyroid problems and thyroid cancers. We have lost many people to these horrible diseases.

The idea of over 200 trucks a day invading the area seems hard to comprehend. We already have a very high volume of traffic daily, we can't understand how this could even work. We already have a hard time getting out of our driveway. What will it be like with several more hundred vehicles in the area? We are surrounded by four major travel routes, 129E & W, 38 N&S, 129 E&W, and 93 N&S. These routes are a square around the designated sight and are heavily travelled daily.

We are also worried about airborne dust, and the smell of a 24 hour operation. How can it not be bad for our health. Right across from the sight there are families with small children. The increase in noise, and smell of diesel and fumes from the facility could not be good for them. It's sad to think that one of the oldest parts of Wilmington will end up like this.

So with the Olin property contamination, the W. R. Grace contamination within a quarter mile, The maple meadow dump site behind us and all the health problems and environmental and traffic issues before us, we cannot understand how this proposal can go forward.

For us, personally it is even sadder. We have felt the health issues ourselves. And feel that this will be the hump that breaks the camel's back. We will most definitely have to leave our family home of 68 years, because our health will not support living here anymore. We love our old house and do not want to leave it. We are even worried, that we will not be able to sell the house for a fair value. After all the years of hard work getting it to where we are now. I know that we are only one family, but we are asking you to please, consider the people in this old neighborhood who are still holding on because we love it here.

Please do not go forward with this proposal.

*Charlotte Grasso Gennaro Grasso*  
Charlotte A. Grasso Gennaro Grasso